

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 2-18 and 20-24 are now pending with claims 3, 16, and 20 being independent. Claims 2, 3, 5, 20, and 21 have been amended.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the interview of May 6, 2004. During the interview, Examiner Jasmine Song and Applicants' representative Indranil Chowdhury discussed the prior art as it applied to claim 1. The Examiner and Applicants' representative discussed the shared program memory described in Applicants' patent application and compared it to the program memory taught in the Hedayat patent. The Applicants' representative and Examiner Song further discussed whether the limitation "a plurality of processor subsystems coupled to the shared program memory to concurrently access instructions stored by the shared program memory" is taught by Hedayat. Applicants' representative stated that the prior art of record did not describe or suggest the limitations of claim 1. To speed up allowance of the application, Applicants' representative suggested incorporating testing of the digital signal processing system recited in claim 4 into claim 1 if the Examiner after further search found prior art that anticipated or made obvious the elements of claims 1 and 3.

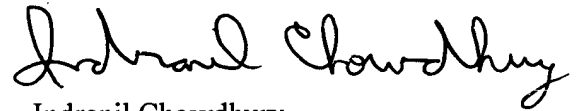
Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 16-18. Applicants also thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 3-4, 7-11, and 20-24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have rewritten claim 3 to incorporate the elements of independent claim 1 into claim 3 and put claim 3 into independent form. Applicants have also rewritten claim 20 to incorporate the elements of independent claim 19 into claim 20 and put claim 20 into independent form.

The remaining claims each depend from one of the independent claims discussed above. Accordingly, the dependent claims are allowable for the reasons set forth with respect to their respective independent claims, and for containing allowable subject matter in their own right. Independent consideration and allowance of the dependent claims are requested.

In view of these remarks and amendments, Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 20-0668 of Texas Instruments Incorporated.

Respectfully submitted,



Indranil Chowdhury
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 47,490

Robert D. Marshall, Jr.
Texas Instruments Incorporated
P.O. Box 655474, MS 3999
Dallas, TX 75265
(972) 917-5290